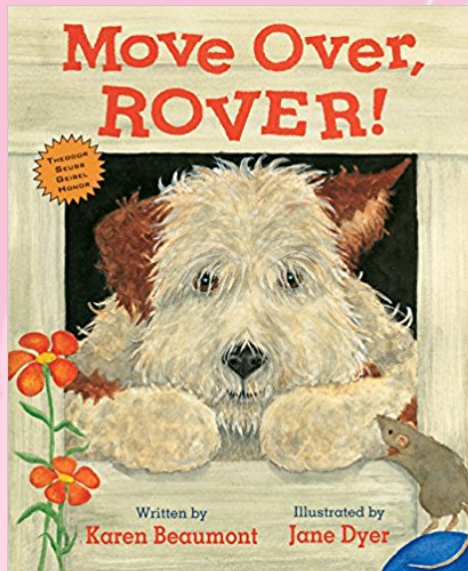


Geisel Award Winner and Honor Books

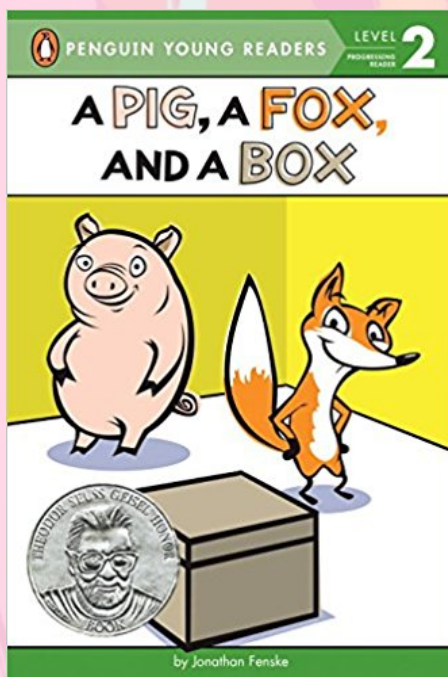
Tara Hargrove

Sam Houston State University



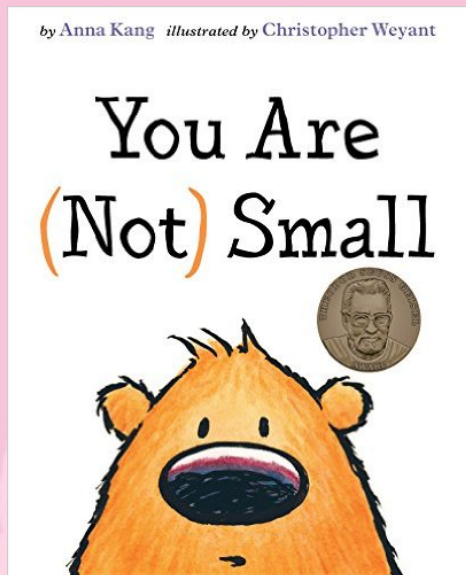
Beaumont, Karen (2006). *Move over, Rover!*. New York, NY: Harcourt Children's Books.

Similar to *The Mitten* by Jan Brett, several animals all end up in a tight space together. Rover, a dog, is home alone during a storm and burrows in his dog house alone. Cat sees that he's in there, so he joins in. Then raccoon notices the two in there and tells them to move over. Next comes squirrel. In this book, however, the skunk and his stinky smell are the reason all the animals flee the dog house instead of someone sneezing. In the end, the storm dissipates, and Rover finally gets back to his dog house solo. (Geisel Honor 2007)



Fenske, Johnathan (2015). *Pete the cat and his four groovy buttons*. New York, NY: Penguin Young Readers.

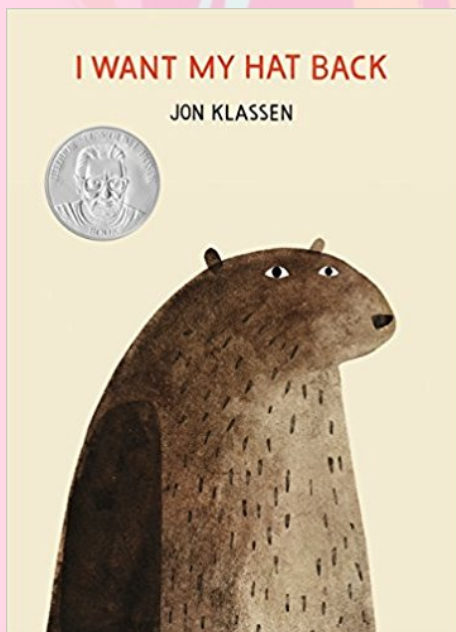
This rhyming book starts out seeming friendly, until Fox says he likes to play tricks and hide. He thinks he is so cunning and hides in a box, while calling for his friend Pig to come and find him. However, Pig just finds a box and decides to sit on it. Unfortunately, he breaks the box with Fox inside. Fox doesn't learn his lesson though. He has a wig that looks like his tail. He decides to hide the wig under some rocks, then runs and hides in the box and calls for Pig to come help him. After Pig throws all the rocks, he discovers a wig, leaving Fox still in the box that is now covered by the rocks. It isn't until after this that Fox decides his games are no fun. (Geisel Honor 2016)



Kang, Anna (2014). *You are (not) small*. New York, NY: Two Lions.

Two animals, one big and one small, debate on who is small and who is big. They each try to prove the other wrong by showing that there are more like them.

However, it isn't until a much larger creature and a much smaller creature arrive, that they settle on the fact that they are both big and small compared to something or someone else. This is a great read for trying to explain what big and small are and how they can be used comparatively. (Geisel Honor 2015)



Klassen, Jon (2011). *I want my hat back*. Somerville, MA:

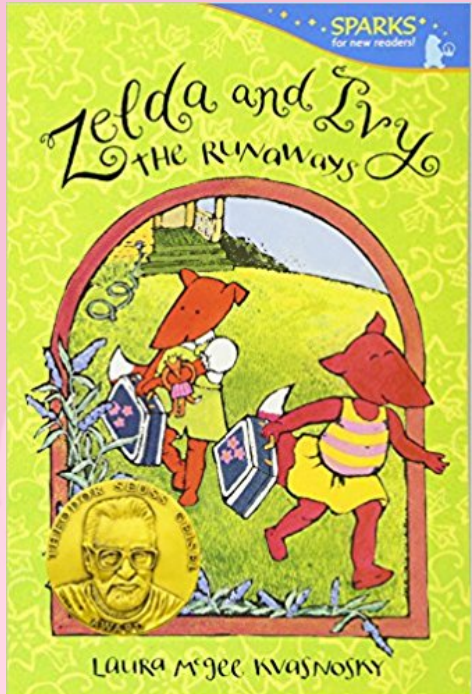
Candlewick Press.

Jon Klassen will definitely surprise you in this book. A bear is looking for his hat. He goes through several animals asking if they have seen his hat. Every animal is polite and kind as they tell him they haven't seen his hat; all except the rabbit. The rabbit is wearing his hat even at the time Bear talks to him. He is rude and tells Bear that he hasn't seen it and to leave him alone. Towards the end of the book, while speaking to a deer about what his hat looks like, Bear realizes he HAS seen it and goes to the rabbit. It ends with the bear wearing his hat and a squirrel asking him if he has seen a rabbit wearing a hat. Bear's answer will leave you giggling with surprise.

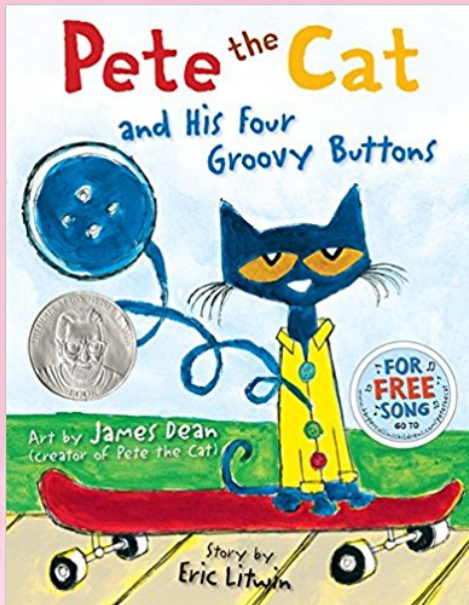
(Geisel Honor 2012)

Kvasnosky, Laura McGee (2006). *Zelda and Ivy: The Runaways*.

Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press.

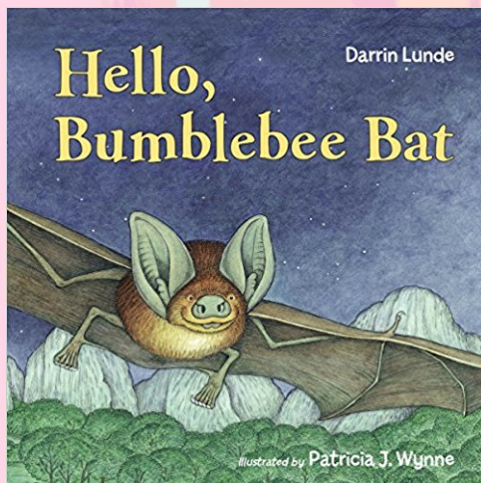


This book includes three short stories about two sister foxes. The first story is about how they plan on “running away” because they don’t like the cucumber sandwiches their parents made. They don’t last but a few hours and they can’t help but go back in. In the second story, they decide to bury items to put in a time capsule under a tree in their yard. They both put something very special to them in it instead of putting something that isn’t so dear to them. They both discover that they miss and need their special items, therefore bringing them to dig the capsule up and put in a book about worms they made instead. The final story is about one sister creating a concoction that she later names “creative juice” for her sister who is stumped with writer’s block. It almost backfires, until her sister gets creative and is inspired to color instead of write. (Geisel Winner 2007)



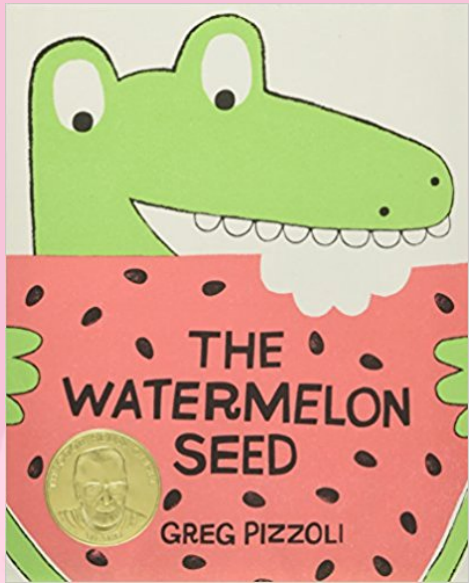
Litwin, Eric (2012). *Pete the cat and his four groovy buttons*. New York, NY: HarperCollins Publisher.

Pete the Cat is always singing his carefree songs, and in this book, his song is about his buttons. He begins with four different colored buttons. He is walking around doing his thing and singing his song, when all of a sudden one pops off. He doesn't let that upset him though. He does his little math problem and goes on his way with one less button. This scenario happens until all four buttons are gone. He still doesn't get upset though, because he finds his one belly button and of course that will never come off. This is a catchy book with a wonderful meaning which all children can understand. Things come and go, but it's nothing to get sad about. (Geisel Honor 2013)



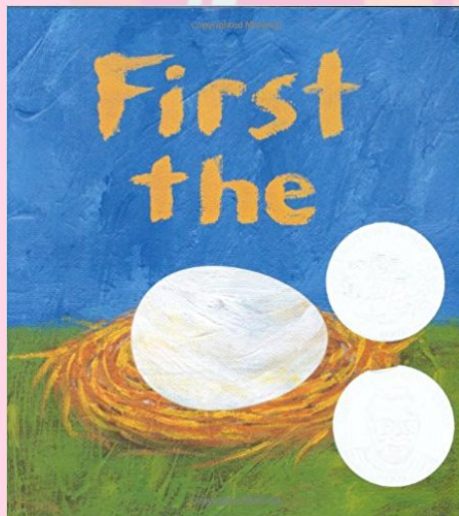
Lunde, Darrin (2007). *Hello, bumblebee bat*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge Publishing.

Learning about the smallest bat in the world is fascinating, especially when it's accompanied with beautiful and accurate pictures. In this book, each page has a question and then the answer is made from the bat's point of view. This book also contains a couple of pages of additional facts about the Bumblebee Bat. (Geisel Honor 2008)



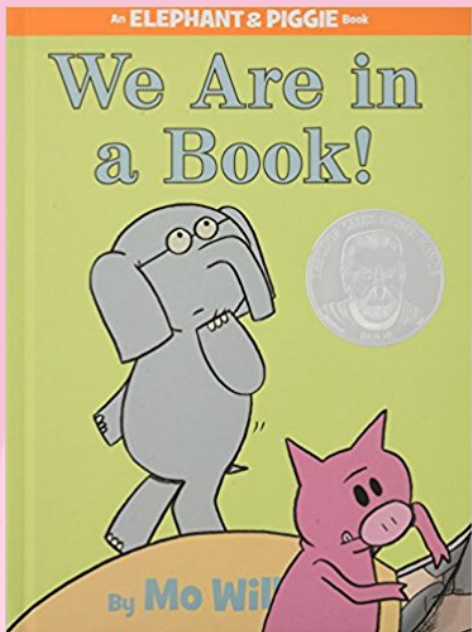
Pizzoli, Greg (2013). *The watermelon seed*. New York, NY: Hyperion Books for Children.

In this witty book, the alligator is obsessed with watermelon. He says he has loved ever since he was a baby and eats it for breakfast, lunch, dinner and dessert. However, he accidentally swallows a seed and thinks he's going to grow a melon in his belly. He thinks his skin will turn pink and vines will grow out of him and he'll be eaten. All of a sudden, he burbs and out comes the seed. Close call for the alligator. Good lesson to learn; don't swallow the watermelon seeds. (Geisel Winner 2014)



Seeger, Laura Vaccaro (2007). *First the egg*. New York, NY: Roaring Brook Press.

The question of all time: Which came first, the chicken or the egg? In this savvy easy reader, Seeger does a wonderful illustration beginning with the egg first and then the chicken. She goes on to show the tadpole came first before the frog, the seed before the flower, the caterpillar before the butterfly and even the word before the story which leads to the paint before the painting and ending with the chicken and then the egg. She does a dynamic job of using each cut out on each page to reflect what is coming and what already came and continuing the cycle of life. (Geisel Honor 2008)



Willems, Mo (2010). *We are in a book*. New York, NY: Hyperion Books for Children.

Elephant and Piggie are two favorite characters of emergent readers. They always do such a fantastic job at engaging children and helping them love reading. In this book, *We Are in a Book!*, they discover someone is looking at them and that someone is a reader. This excites them, and they get the reader to say a funny word out loud. However, when Elephant realizes that all books must end, he and Piggie devise a plan to get the reader to read them again. This book will make children smile and giggle and want to keep reading it over and over again. (Geisel Honor 2010)

Resources:

All photos of books taken from www.amazon.com.